



SCIENCE

Task Group on Analysis Groups (TagAG) Final Report

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Task Group Members

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Task Group Assignment

- TagAG Terms of Reference signed by Administrator Bolden on January 11, 2011
- Short-term study of how best to update the Planetary Analysis Groups (AGs) to serve the science needs of both SMD and ESMD:

“The purpose of this Task Group is to devise a plan for how the NAC Science Committee can organize, particularly with respect to the NAC Planetary Science Subcommittee Analysis Groups (AGs), to provide advice not only to the Science Mission Directorate (SMD) but, also, to the Exploration Systems Mission Directorate (ESMD) for integration of science into its exploration mission objectives.”

- Task Group formally organized as a Task Group of the NAC Science Committee
- Goal was to complete work and report back to the NAC Science Committee by July/August 2011



Task Group Activities

- TagAG conducted two FACA-compliant telecons on May 4 and May 21, respectively
 - Identified three Analysis/Assessment Groups that were the focus of ESMD interest based on the targets covered:
 - LEAG-Lunar Exploration Analysis Group (Moon)
 - MEPAG-Mars Exploration Analysis Group (Mars)
 - SBAG-Small Bodies Assessment Group (Asteroids)
 - Reviewed draft Terms of Reference (TOR) for these three groups
 - Reached initial consensus on proposed changes
 - Requested feedback from Chairs of affected analysis groups
 - Reviewed their feedback to determine which of their proposed changes to recommend as part of our final report
 - Reached consensus via email on final package of recommendations



Task Group Recommendations

- Revise the draft Terms of Reference for the three Analysis Groups:
 - Add explicit tasking authority for ESMD and relevant Committees of the NAC
 - Previously only SMD, the Science Committee and the Planetary Science Subcommittee
 - Add language concerning the appointment of the Chair (and in the case of LEAG, Co-Chairs) that acknowledges a role for both the Associate Administrator for Science and the Associate Administrator for Exploration Systems
 - Single appointment authority, after consultation between AAs
 - Update language to capture revisions in the topic areas covered by the respective Analysis Groups
 - Requested input on possible realignment of Analysis/Assessment Groups from Planetary Science Subcommittee (PSS)
 - PSS feels that the existing structure of the AGs is appropriate and noted that there is a consensus within PSS *not* to re-align the AGs at this time



Task Group Recommendations (Cont'd)

- Revise the draft Terms of Reference for the three Analysis Groups (cont'd):
 - Acknowledge Uniqueness of Lunar Exploration Analysis Group (LEAG)
 - Establish Co-Chair for Science (appointed by AA for Science after consultation with AA for Exploration) who we recommend continue to sit on the Planetary Science Subcommittee
 - Establish Co-Chair for Exploration (appointed by the AA for Exploration Systems after consultation with AA for Science) who we recommend be added to the Exploration Committee
 - LEAG Executive Secretary will be appointed by AA for Science after consultation with AA for Exploration Systems
 - Refine the wording concerning the role of the Designated Federal Official (DFO)/Executive Secretary in coordination with the Chair
 - Ensure consistency with role of DFO as defined in the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) Final Rule and NASA Policy, while recognizing close working relationship between Executive Secretary and Chair